



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

enables him to see things in their right proportions where a mere philologist would have gone astray. He gives a sufficient statement of what is actually known about the pre-Socratics without wasting much time over such hopeless problems as the reconstruction of the rings of Anaximander. The chapter on Plato is judicious and sympathetic. Grote's notion that the *Timaeus* teaches the rotation of the earth is rejected, and the preposterous theories of Gruppe are refuted after Böckh. What is signified by the breadth of the rims of the whorls in the tenth book of the *Republic* is left an open question.

The real scientific interest begins with the first definite hypothesis that can be tested by its success in "saving the phenomena"—the homocentric spheres of Eudoxus. Of this theory, of the modifications of it by Calippus and Aristotle, of the theory of eccentrics and of epicycles, of the heliocentric doctrine of Heracleides and Aristarchus, and of the Ptolemaic system as a whole, Dr. Dreyer gives a lucid, precise, and substantially correct account. It is impossible in this brief notice to enter into the substance of these chapters. The book will be most helpful not only to classical scholars, but to students of mediaeval and modern literature down to and including Milton.

PAUL SHOREY

Die kaiserlichen Verwaltungsbeamten bis auf Diocletian. Von OTTO HIRSCHFELD. 2te neugearb. Aufl. Berlin: Weidmann, 1905. Pp. x + 514. M. 12.

This is the second edition of the author's well-known *Untersuchungen auf dem Gebiete der römischen Verwaltungsgeschichte*, which has been so useful to students of Roman imperial history since its publication a generation ago. The author tells us in his preface that the chapters on taxation and provincial administration which, according to his original design, he had planned to put in a second part, he has now included in the one volume, and therefore the title of the work as originally planned has been dropped, and his former subtitle is used as indicative of the entire scope of the book now presented. The older edition has been recast and in part rewritten; and the new shows a gain in quantity of nearly two hundred pages. The new matter is found mainly in the chapters "Die Census" und "Die Tributa," "Die Vectigalia," "Die centesima rerum venalium," etc. (pp. 53-96), "Der kaiserliche Grundbesitz," "Die kaiserlichen Villen und Garten," "Die ager publicus und die Lagerterritorium" (pp. 121-144), "Der hauptstädtische Hafen" (pp. 246-251), and a long chapter (pp. 343-409) on "Aegypten und die Provinzen." The very useful catalogue of imperial *praefecti praetorio* of the old edition has been left out of the new, because a full list of

the imperial magistrates of the first three centuries is to be published soon in *Prosopographia imperii Romani*.

The revision throughout shows the ripe scholarship of the author's mature years. It is, of course, based on the original sources throughout, but the writer has not hesitated to use the special articles of Mommsen, Seeck, Dessau, Rostowzew, Paul Meyer, and others of his illustrious fellow-workers, sometimes to controvert their conclusions, but oftener in substantiation of his own. One feels that he has perhaps carried the controversial feature to excess in his discussion of the imperial *patrimonium* and the *res privata*. That from the time of Severus the *patrimonium* is the crown land and the *res privata* the private fortune of the emperor, seems reasonable and, from the evidence adduced, well supported by the sources. The long digression to disprove Karlowa's opposite theory might well have been relegated to a periodical. In his discussion (p. 80 and note) of the excessive impost on goods coming in from Arabia (cf. *Perip. maris Erythr.*, p. 19), Hirschfeld still holds to his conjectural emendation of τετταρακοστῆς for τετάρτης, though both Wilcken and Rostowzew think the text should be unaltered, the former holding that the excessive duty is charged as a transfer tax across Nabataei; the latter that it is simply a protective tariff for Egyptian goods. It may be suggested that it was possibly designed as a piece of sumptuary legislation, to tax the luxuries coming in from the East.

The most interesting by far of the new chapters is the one on Egypt and the provinces. Starting with a modest disclaimer of his own capacity to present at this time a complete portrayal of the Roman-Egyptian administration, he gives a systematic presentation of it in considerable detail, and shows that it was the model of the whole provincial system of the empire, as being the first of the provinces organized under the principate along the lines of regal or imperial administration. For example, he shows that the title of the officer sent to the smaller imperial provinces was probably, in the earlier time, *praefectus*, in imitation of the title of the *praefectus Aegypti*. He even thinks it is likely that the procurator, Pontius Pilate, might have been a prefect, because we have no inscriptional evidence for the existence of the procuratorial title earlier than the time of Claudius.

The impression given by a reading over of Hirschfeld's work is that the dim picture of Roman imperial history in the third century, due to the imperfect character of our sources, is gradually becoming more and more distinct, and that the general conclusions in regard to the striking influence, first of Hadrian and later of Severus, are becoming more clearly defined with our increasing knowledge. It is such a book as this that may well give the classical student renewed courage. Small though the individual accomplishment of the day's work of such a scholar may be, when it comes to the summing-up of the life-accomplish-

ment of one of the good workers, even in so comparatively limited a field of the larger subject of classical philology as is the theme of early imperial administration, the result is certainly inspiring. The painstaking study of the inscriptional material seems likely to fill with fair adequacy the gap in our literary sources between the time of Herodian and Marius Maximus and the beginning of the Codex Theodosianus.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

J. H. DRAKE

De vocis σκηνή quantum ad theatrum Graecum pertinet significatione et usu. Scripsit OTTO SCHERLING. Marburg dissertation. Marburg: privately printed, 1906. Pp. 48.

Although much has been written on the terminology of the Greek theater, no one term has received thoroughgoing attention. The author of the present dissertation attempts to supply this deficiency in the case of *σκηνή*. However, he has neither brought new material into the discussion nor included in his paper all the passages previously discussed. Furthermore he pays no attention to the Latin term (*scaena*), though it seems to me that the two words must be jointly considered to secure a final treatment for either. His method, too, is peculiar. We know more of the theater structure in Roman times, he says, than in the fifth century. Therefore, he examines the usage in that period first. This is like scanning a verse backward, and in both cases the process can be justified only by successful results. In the Roman period *σκηνή* has the meaning "scene" ("Spielplatz"), and all are agreed that the place of the actors was then a raised stage. Therefore, *σκηνή* means "stage" in the Roman period. But in Hellenistic times and the fourth century, although the meaning "scene" was already in use, the place of the actors is not definitely known, so that the author does not venture to carry his conclusions further; and for the fifth century certainty is still less attainable. Consequently, his procedure has yielded him not a single result that could not have been obtained by a scientific (chronological) treatment.

Yet in spite of these defects there is much that is praiseworthy in this dissertation. Dr. Scherling gives new interpretations of several passages. In particular he accepts without hesitation the meaning "play" or "spectacle" which I have emphasized in my own articles and happily applies it (after the analogy of [Plato] *Clit.* 407*a*) to passages like [Plut.] *Prov.* 116. He shows thorough acquaintance with the literature (American as well as European) and much discretion in selecting interpretations of those passages where he had nothing new of his own to present. As a result, if the chapters are read in their chronological order, this pamphlet will prove highly useful to anyone anxious to orientate himself quickly in this perplexing field. The Latin is clear and fluent.

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

ROY C. FLICKINGER